

five major campaigns as a member of the 14th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division. He not only survived the combat rigors and horrors of Iwo Jima, but also assaults on the Marshall Islands, Saipan, Tinian, and Okinawa. All of these battles were some of the heaviest battles fought in the Pacific theater during World War II.

The Secretary of the Navy when recommending this honorary promotion said, "Littrell's extraordinary service to the Marine Corps is noteworthy and rises to the service that warrants favorable consideration for this unique honor. The recommendation to concur with the request is a testament to his enduring selflessness and sacrifice."

In addition to his service during the war, PFC Littrell has long served his community. The Marine Corps League Coquille River Detachment recognized PFC Littrell as their 2016 Marine of the Year. In 2019, he was awarded with a Marine Corps League Distinguished Service Award and was also recognized as the Marine Corps League Marine of the Year for the Department of Oregon.

PFC Littrell reliably and honorably performed his duties in the Marine Corps throughout his period of active service. PFC Littrell is worthy of an honorary promotion to Corporal. By passing this legislation, we have the opportunity to honor the notable service of this outstanding veteran.

This honorary promotion is championed by the Navy and Marine Corp and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill's swift passage.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GERRY
LYNN

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Gerald Allen "Gerry" Lynn of Brandenburg, Kentucky. Gerry passed away on September 6, 2020, and I will miss him deeply.

Gerry was a passionate servant of his community. He always tried to bring people together. I first met him when he served in the Kentucky State House of Representatives. He then went on to serve as the Meade County Judge Executive, a role in which he worked tirelessly to better Meade County and the region. I always enjoyed spending time with him because he was interested in everything—and he could do anything. Whether it was paragliding, wiring his own home, or working hard to help Meade County, he accomplished anything he put his mind to. In addition to serving his community, Gerry also served our Nation in the Army.

Of all of Gerry's accomplishments, he was proudest of his family. My prayers are with his wife Nancye, his children, and his grandchildren. Gerry was an honorable man and a pillar in our community who will be missed by all.

HONORING SHELBY HAMLETT

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Shelby Paisley Hamlett, who passed away on September 14, 2020 at the age of 82. Shelby was dedicated to helping others in an array of volunteer and charitable organizations.

Shelby was born in Wytheville, Virginia on August 20, 1938, to Alton and Rachael Paisley. She grew up in the town and then attended Hollins University, which took her to the Roanoke area where she would spend much of the rest of her life.

Shelby was deeply devoted to several causes and organizations that sought to improve lives in her community and around the world. At the age of 18, she became involved in the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), starting with the Brambleton Jr. Woman's Club in Blue Ridge District, GFWC Virginia. The organization became a lifelong commitment, and Shelby went on to serve in post after post, including Virginia President 1980 to 1982 and ultimately International President 2000 to 2002. In this role, she helped develop the GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar, attended the Women's World Vision Conference in China, and participated in an Operation Smile Medical mission.

Her passion for helping others extended to other causes. I met Shelby when I served on the board of Easter Seals Virginia, an organization devoted to helping Americans living with disabilities, which she assisted in creating and longed served as a member of the Board of Directors. She was also on the national Board of Directors. As the local level, she was part of the Roanoke County PTA Association, helped develop special education classes for the county's schools, and was a longtime active member and deacon at Heights Community Church in Roanoke.

Shelby is survived by her son David, brothers Monte and Randal Paisley, and several nieces and nephews. I would like to extend my condolences to them on their loss.

STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5823, the State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act, which authorizes a new DHS grant program to address cybersecurity vulnerabilities on State and local government networks.

The new grant program would be authorized at \$400 million with a graduating cost-share that incentivizes States to increase funding for cybersecurity in their budgets.

Under the bill, State, tribal, and territorial governments would be required to develop comprehensive cybersecurity plans to guide the use of grant funds.

This bill tasks the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), the Nation's cyber risk advisor, that works with partners to defend against today's threats and collaborating to build more secure and resilient infrastructure for the future to provide support to state and local governments.

The bill also requires CISA to develop a strategy to improve the cybersecurity of State, local, tribal, and territorial governments, among other things, identify Federal resources that could be made available to State and local governments for cybersecurity purposes, and set baseline objectives for State and local cybersecurity efforts.

CISA would also be required to assess the feasibility of implementing a short-term rotational program for the detail of approved State, local, Tribal, and territorial government employees in cyber workforce positions at CISA.

Lastly, the bill establishes a State and Local Cybersecurity Resiliency Committee comprised of representatives from State, local, tribal, and territorial governments to advise and provide situational awareness to CISA regarding the cybersecurity needs of such governments.

As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security since its establishment, and current Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security. This bill is of importance to me.

The threats we face—digital and physical, man-made, technological, and natural—are more complex, and the threat actors more diverse, than at any point in our history. CISA is at the heart of mobilizing a collective defense as we lead the Nation's efforts to understand and manage risk to our critical infrastructure.

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 5823, and ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this important step to improving cybersecurity of state and local governments.

HONORING SENATOR BILL
MONNING

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I ride today to honor Bill Monning, the retiring Senator representing the 17th Senate District of California, for his career in advocacy and public service and his commitment to serving the people of the central coast of California. His leadership has improved the lives of many, and I am honored to acknowledge this legacy today.

Senator Monning was born in Culver City, California, in 1951 and raised in Pasadena. After finishing high school at Flintridge Preparatory School, where he excelled as an athlete, Monning attended college at the University of California, Berkeley. Following his graduation, he attained his Juris Doctorate from the University of San Francisco. His time spent in the Bay Area in the 1970s led him to commit himself to a career of advocating for and serving others.

After passing the California Bar Examination, Senator Monning worked as an attorney protecting the rights of migrant farm workers

at the United Farm Workers of America and the Migrant Farm Worker Project at California Rural Legal Assistance. Monning served as the Director of the Salvadoran Medical Relief Fund from 1982 through 1987 and was the Executive Director of the Nobel Peace Prize winning organization International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War from 1987 through 1991. Monning then went on to serve as a professor at the Monterey College of Law and Monterey Institute of International Studies and president and co-founder of Global Majority, Inc., an organization committed to education, training and advocacy in the field of non-violent conflict resolution.

Senator Monning's service in the California State Legislature began with his election as Assemblymember for the 27th Assembly District, representing parts of Monterey, Santa Cruz, and Santa Clara counties from 2008 to 2012. In 2012, he was elected Senator of the 17th Senate District, which includes all of San Luis Obispo and Santa Cruz counties and portions of Monterey and Santa Clara counties. He was reelected in 2016 and served as Senate Majority Leader from 2015 through 2018. Currently, Monning serves as Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Rules and is a member of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and the Senate Committees on Budget, Health, Judiciary, Natural Resources and Water, and Rules. He also represents the Senate on the California Air Resources Board. Throughout his time as a legislator, he has been a leader in protecting natural resources and the environment, improving the health of all Californians, and serving veterans.

As Senator Monning prepares to celebrate his retirement, I am proud to commend him on his lifetime of serving others. I have no doubt he will enjoy spending this time with his wife, Dr. Dana T. Kent, his two children, and three grandchildren. On behalf of Central Coast residents, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Senator Bill Monning for his public service and wishing him a long and healthy retirement.

HONORING FRANK VARDEMAN, JR.

HON. LUCY McBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mrs. McBATH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Frank Burton "Burt" Vardeman, Jr., a life built on faith, service, and family. Mr. Vardeman passed away peacefully on September 13, 2020 at the age of 95. He is survived by his wife Martha Frances Hay Vardeman, their four children Frances, Frank, Cile, and Marty; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The first of four brothers, Burt was born in Columbus, Georgia and grew up in Covington. He attended public schools and graduated from Covington High School in 1942. During his freshman year at North Georgia College, Burt was drafted into the United States Army Air Corps. He served his country during World War II as a Flight Radio Operator on B-24 Liberator bombers with the 15th Air Force, surviving 31 combat missions over Nazi-occupied Europe. During one mission, Nazis destroyed three of the engines on Burt's plane, and he and his crewmates considered jumping

into the Aegean Sea. Fortunately, they spotted an airstrip in the distance, where they landed and were housed by the Tuskegee Airmen, who frequently escorted his Bomb Group, while waiting for another plane. Burt frequently said throughout his life, "I owe my life to the Red Tails."

After the war, Burt came home and studied at Auburn University using the GI Bill, where he met Martha, his "Sweetie Pie." Graduating in 1949 with a B.S. in Building Construction, Burt and Martha moved to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to join Martha's father, a Presbyterian minister who had just been named president of Stillman College, a historically black college. Serving as Business and Property Manager at Stillman College, Burt helped the school become an accredited four-year institution by overseeing the construction and management of 10 major campus buildings, a considerable achievement during the Civil Rights Movement.

Burt, Martha, and their four children moved to Atlanta in 1965, where Burt worked until his retirement in 1989. His accomplishments during that career included overseeing the construction and administration of the Presbyterian Church USA headquarters. In retirement, he spoke of a deep gratitude for the heroism of the Tuskegee Airmen and was made an honorary Tuskegee Airman himself. Burt volunteered for numerous organizations, including North Decatur Presbyterian Church and Kiwanis, enjoyed golfing and fishing, and was an avid bowtie enthusiast. More than anything, however, he cherished his family.

Burt and Martha built a family rooted in love and support. He selflessly served his American family overseas by defending democracy and at home by building the foundation for a more just and equal future. Through his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, Burt's legacy of faith, service, and family is destined to live on for generations.

It is my distinct privilege to help honor and celebrate the storied life of Burt Vardeman. As his family continues to grieve this profound loss, I offer my deepest condolences. On behalf of myself, the Sixth Congressional District, and the United States House of Representatives, I am eternally grateful to Burt for his unbounded dedication to the betterment of humanity and the overflowing passion with which he lived.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF PASTOR DAVID E. KELLER OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and ministry of Pastor David E. Keller of Fort Wayne, Indiana. After 34 years of service to the Greater Fort Wayne community, Pastor Keller is retiring from his role as Senior Pastor of Abundant Life Church.

In June of 1986, Pastor Keller began his ministry at a small church just across the street from Saint Francis College in Fort Wayne. Through the help of God, he sought to grow his church to include every culture, every tongue, and every nationality. After a signifi-

cant investment of his own finance and will, what started as an 1,800 square foot facility has grown to a massive 98,000 square foot facility that is completely debt free.

Pastor Keller has established a diverse outreach that now ministers to 3 major ethnic groups: Asian, Hispanic, and African. This is in addition to a ministry dedicated to the deaf and hard of hearing, and the main weekend congregation. He has also helped sponsor and establish a Bible school and Christian orphanage in India, and fostered a multi-campus ministry in Ghana, Africa.

Today, Pastor Keller is leaving behind a thriving, dynamic, and diverse congregation that ministers to hundreds of people each week. Under his leadership, the Abundant Life congregation has truly become a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multigenerational assembly who understand that "we are all level, at the foot or the cross."

I wish Pastor Keller, his wife Marta, and their children and grandchildren the very best as he moves on to the next chapter of his life. While we will sorely miss his leadership, there can be no doubt that many in the community are better off today because of his great work.

THE NOMINATION OF JUDGE AMY CONEY BARRETT TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank President Trump for nominating Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the United States Supreme Court, and urge her immediate confirmation.

Currently serving on the Seventh Circuit of the United States Court of Appeals in South Bend, Indiana, Judge Barrett has shown throughout her highly-successful legal career that she has an outstanding legal mind and that she is more than qualified to serve on the Supreme Court.

As a fellow Hoosier, I have the utmost confidence that Judge Barrett would honorably carry out the duties of a Supreme Court Justice and would help defend the constitutional rights of all Americans.

I also believe that she appropriately understands the role of the Federal Judiciary in our Republic is to rule on the law—not to make it up from the bench.

I thank Indiana's Senators for indicating their support of Judge Barrett's nomination, and urge the rest of the United States Senate to follow suit and quickly confirm this highly-qualified Hoosier to the bench.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. I want to thank my